

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-29 without prejudice to continued prosecution. Please add new claims 30-44.

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (New) An isolated nucleic acid, wherein said nucleic acid comprises the sequence ATGGCATGGCATG (SEQ ID NO. 19).

31. (New) An isolated nucleic acid, wherein said nucleic acid comprises: three start codons within a span of 50 nucleotides, wherein each said start codon is within a different reading frame; and a sequence that encodes histidine tags in three reading frames.

32. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 31, wherein said start codons are ATG codons.

33. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 31, wherein said start codons are within a span of 13 nucleotides.

34. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 33, wherein said 13 nucleotides are ATGGCATGGCATG (SEQ ID NO. 19).

35. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 31, wherein said isolated nucleic acid further comprises a ribosome-binding site positioned 5' of said start codons.

36. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 31.

37. (New) The vector of claim 36, wherein said start codons are ATG codons.

38. (New) The vector of claim 36, wherein said start codons are within a span of 13 nucleotides.

39. (New) The vector of claim 36, wherein said 13 nucleotides are ATGGCATGGCATG (SEQ ID NO. 19).

40. (New) The vector of claim 36, further comprising one or more cloning sites, said one or more cloning sites located 3', 5', or 3' and 5' of said sequence encoding said histidine tags.

41. (New) A cultured cell comprising the vector of claim 36.

42. (New) The cultured cell of claim 41, wherein said cell is a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.

43. (New) The cultured cell of claim 42, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of a yeast cell, a bacterial cell, a plant cell and an animal cell.

44. (New) The complement of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 31.